

# Tar Heel Tailings

*A newsletter for Gem and Mineral enthusiasts in and around the Raleigh, North Carolina area.*

## Special Interest Articles:

- Prez Sez
- Show Information
- New Faceting and Cabbing Machine Rules
- William Holland Workshop Information

## Individual Highlights:

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## Prez Sez By Daniel Cathey

Folks,  
For some time now I have been trying to balance club responsibilities and the fact that I have several family members who are very ill. I have come to the realization that I cannot do both and have to choose family over the club. For this reason I am as of this date, March 24, 2017, resigning my position as President of the Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club.

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## New Faceting and Cabbing Machine Rules By Bob Bendelow

At the present time, any club member can use the machines in the lapidary room – faceting and cabbing – whenever they want, minus any time a class is held there. Being members, they do not have to buy a studio pass. Our dues are considerably less than a studio pass. Members would use the laps, etc. that are found in the class boxes, one for each of six students. As the instructor for the faceting classes I have been finding more and more problems with the way it works now.

Some of the non-class users are messing it up for everybody. In the January class, ALL of the laps for one machine were missing. In other boxes, the polishing laps

were wrecked. Multiple times someone has come in and used the machines and traded their worn out laps for brand new laps that had just replaced old laps. It's gotten so that I keep spare laps (MY OWN) in my case to get by these problems. I leave at the end of a class session

leaving a full epoxy dispenser and find only an empty one the next week at the start of the next session. Many times a student was ready to transfer their stone and their transfer jig was missing or in use by someone else. And I don't want to talk about how some machines are abused.

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**Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.**

10609 Chelsea Drive  
Raleigh NC 27603

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(919) 239-0142

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**We're on the Web!**  
See us at:  
[www.tarheelclub.org](http://www.tarheelclub.org)

**Program & Refreshments**

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:

Coordinator: Loretta Turcotte  
[rosevilla@nc.rr.com](mailto:rosevilla@nc.rr.com)  
(919) 263-8523

April TBD

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

April	Potluck and Show Discussion
May	Linda Searcy: Faceting Stones – My Experiences
June	Rachel Smith – NC Museum of Natural Sciences: Meteorites and Search for Life in the Solar System
July	Cathy Young – Mid-Atlantic Nature and Fossil Adventures: Fossil Collecting in the Mid-Atlantic
August	Ice Cream Social
September	Fletcher McDonald-Micro-mineral Collecting and Preparation
October	Nominations, Grab Bags
November	Elections

Remember, the club will reimburse you for up to \$85 (bring your receipts to the treasurer).

**April Treasurer's Report**

Due to illness, no Treasurer's Report this month.

**April B-Day Members**

Catherine Bays  
Bob Bendelow  
Kathy Bromead  
Kay Cox  
Bill McMillan  
Cindy Mitchell  
Robert Neyland  
Ray Niederkorn  
Vickie Pointer  
Cindy Sanchez  
Tom Todaro  
David Tomlin  
Kory Young



Membership applications may be mailed to:

Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.  
Attention: Treasurer  
10609 Chelsea Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27603

### Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. - March Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Attendees = ~38

#### Opening of Club Meeting:

Dan Cathey called meeting to order at 7:35pm. Several new members joined and some old members renewed their memberships.

#### Old Business:

None.

#### New Business:

Cyndy Hummel discussed an invite to host a show in 2018 for SFMS / Eastern Federation. TGMC membership approved the invitation and Cyndy to be representative for Club.

#### Refreshments:

Loretta Turcotte again outdid herself – she brought in a St. Patrick’s Day dinner of corned beef, cabbage, veggies and brown bread – delicious!

#### Gem Show:

Requested volunteer help for the show – there are plenty of opportunities to help – Setup on Thursday night, Breakdown on Sunday night, Hospitality, Silent Auction, Demonstration, Geodes, Display Cases.

#### Program (Grab Bags):

Jack Fried instructed what and how many stones go into bags ... should weigh less than your first born/grandchild (LOL) ~1lb-1.5lb

783 bags! So in total there will be more than 1000 grab bags.

All postcards labeled and stamped!



#### Door Prize:

Walt Milowic was the winner – he chose a quartz crystal.

#### Close of Meeting:

Meeting closed at 9:30pm

Respectfully Submitted

Linda Searcy

Secretary

Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.



## Prez Sez

### Continued from Page 1

The by-laws call for the Vice-President to step in if the President can not serve out the term. I will contact Ms. Davis at the Fairgrounds today as well as the Southeastern Federation that I am no longer President. I am glad that I helped get us through the grab bag preparation and setting up the speakers for this year.

Jack, sorry to dump this on you but I had to choose. I will be glad to meet you somewhere to hand over the presidential items.

## Prez Sez

### By Jack Fried

Well everyone, I would like to extend my heartfelt sadness for Dan Cathey on his untimely resignation from his office of President. Unfortunately, he has had some family emergencies arise that need attending to.

I have now been tasked with filling his shoes until a special meeting can be called to elect a new president.

On the lighter side, I believe we have a wonderful show this year.

We had a lot of volunteers this year. The Chair people worked extremely hard at their positions and should definitely be

commended for their efforts. I hope next year we will be able to get joint chair people to handle each area.

Also, thanks to the refreshment committee for their wonderful preparation of food for the show. It was wonderful. I hope to see you all at the meeting this month.

Sincerely,  
Jack Fried  
Acting President  
Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

## Field Trip Information

### By Shirley Green

#### Hanson Rocky Mt. Quarry, Rocky Mount, NC

##### When:

Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 8:30 am to 12 noon.

EVERYONE NEEDS TO ARRIVE BY 8:15 AM.

LATE COMERS WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE!!!! (NO EXCEPTIONS)

##### Where:

The address is 10471 North Carolina 97 West, Rocky Mount, NC 27801

##### Requirements:

- TAR HEEL CLUB BADGE
- HARD HAT
- STEEL TOE BOOTS
- SAFETY VEST
- SAFETY GLASSES
- Everyone must comply with any and all safety requirements or directions as set forth by the owner and staff.
- We are guests of this site so please do not leave any litter behind.

##### Tools:

- Pickaxes
- Shovels
- Rock hammer
- 3 pound hammer or sledgehammer
- Chisel or pry bar
- Long screwdriver
- Gloves
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray - not sure if we will need or not
- Backpack or bucket or both
- Newspaper to wrap your specimens in
- Plenty of fluids to drink
- Snacks
- Hand truck

##### Collecting:

Hopefully we will be finding fossils here!

##### Information:

Children are allowed with parental supervision.

##### Who:

Please RSVP to Shirley Green. [richard60green@yahoo.com](mailto:richard60green@yahoo.com)  
(919) 848-1085

## Note from Show Dealer Chair

Please send any comments or suggestions on the current mix of dealers, any dealers you particularly liked or had a problem with, and whether there are any specific dealers or types of dealers (books, jewelry, specimens, etc.) that should be added to our show? You can send your comments directly to my email.

If I get any responses, I will report the results to the club in the newsletter.

Gary McCutchen, TGMC Show Dealer Chairperson  
E-mail: [g.mccutchen@rtpenv.com](mailto:g.mccutchen@rtpenv.com)



## New Faceting and Cabbing Machine Rules

Continued from page 1

However, with this increasing number of problems a different approach has been determined for club members who wish to use the machines:

Members will no longer be able to use ANYTHING that is in one of the class boxes. Members can bring their own laps, transfer jigs, table adapters, epoxy, etc and use them on the machines, per some restrictions noted below. Because not everyone, especially those who are just starting faceting, or who do it occasionally, will own these things, the Club will provide two sets of laps and the items mentioned above for any club member to use with a machine. There will be two, distinctive boxes, each with one set. Some items, such as alcohol and alcohol lamps or anything else kept in the cabinets will still be usable by members.

To access a machine with their own items or with club supplied items, a Club member MUST sign in, using their Club membership card, at the front desk. If they wish to use one of the club boxes, they will ask for one and it will be noted on the sign-in sheet. Without signing in, a Club member cannot use a machine.

The "must sign in" rule will also apply to the cabbing machines. There have been problems there as well. The

Craft Center spent \$4000 at the beginning of the year to replace all the grinding wheels. In two weeks one wheel was gouged. Thus, no sign in = no machine.

The Club requests that when you use a machine, of either type, you will keep in mind that others want to have use of them as well, and be gentle with the machines. Practice sweeping across a lap or a grinding wheel – not holding the stone in one place. Especially on the faceting machines, SNUG the hold-downs – do not push them hard, do not over-tighten. In a recent class we had to use tools to unlock one mast as it had been tightened too hard. The mast that you see is a hollow tube sitting over a solid rod. If you tighten the holding knob too much, the tube is distorted and bent so the head cannot move up or down. As of the first 2017 class, three of six machines have been damaged this way. If you have not been taught how to use a Facetron, you should not be using and damaging it. Ask at a club meeting for someone to help you.

We hope that with this new approach that each faceting class session will be problem free and yet our members will have improved access to the machines.

## William Holland Workshop

June 11-17, 2017

<http://sfmsworkshops.com/>

Tuition \$370

Full descriptions of class and instructors on website



### Beading – Gail DeLuxe

Gail's 2017 SFMS classes will be all about playing with flat Peyote Stitch. This class will be appropriate for both beginners and experienced stitchers. Class kits include bead kits and instructions for 4 projects using variations of flat peyote stitch: Color Block Bracelet, Hombré Ombre Amulet Bag, Zig Zag Bracelet, Freeform bracelet

Class Kit Fee \$150. Includes beads, findings, instructions, and notions for four complete projects as pictured. Several color options will be available.

### Cabs 2 With Intarsia – Paul Roberts

This course is designed for those with some cabbing experience who wish to broaden their skills. Doplless cabbing of fancy shapes and freeforms (including use of the instructor's special carving wheels and jeweler's bit) will receive some attention although for the most of this week we will concentrate on making composite cabochons (intarsia utilizing a Gemie cabbing machine and an Intarsia grinder). We will also cover instructions for simple settings (wire/groove and prong-sets). Lab Fee: \$45 Estimated Material Costs: \$0-\$100

### Casting – Bill Harr

This class will teach silver casting for beginner and intermediate silversmithing. The emphasis will be on production centrifugal casting, meaning techniques for high reliability. The class will teach centrifugal and vacuum casting, wax modeling, spruing, investing, burnout, casting, finishing and polishing, rubber mold making and wax injection. Steam casting will be covered if there is interest. Waxes will be available, and students will learn to inject their own. Lab Fee: \$80 Estimated Material Costs: \$0-\$100

### Gemstone Faceting – Linda Seary

In this week long workshop, you will 1) get acquainted with the faceting machine, 2) learn about abrasive disks/laps to do the cutting / grinding and polishing, 3) learn how to turn a piece of natural or man-made (synthetic) crystal into a beautiful gemstone; learn how to prepare / dop a stone; learn how to read and understand a faceting diagram; learn Meep Point (precision) faceting. By the end of the week, you should complete at least one or several gemstones. Material / Lab fee: \$50

### Immersion Enameling and Cold Connection – Debora Mausser

First we will learn the immersion method of enameling, often referred to as Painting with Fire. We will combine that with various cold connection treatments and metal shapes formed with a hydraulic press. Students will enamel beads, flat pieces and formed pieces. You class fee includes one tank of map gas, use of all enamel and enhancements, all copper and brass needed to complete projects, beads, ear wires and leather. Class fee \$175, includes gas, enamel, metal, beads, leather, rivets.



## William Holland Workshop

June 11-17, 2017

<http://sfmsworkshops.com/>

Tuition \$370

Full descriptions of class and instructors on website



### Inlay/Silver 1 INTRO TO INLAY – Chuck Bruce & Co-Teacher Micah Kirby

Beginning Inlay Jewelry – Students will construct an inlay pendant (project 1) and student choice after. Suggestions for project, Large Inlay pendant, Inlay bead, Inlay Ring, Belt Buckle, and Cuff links. Students can bring basic silver tools, pocketknife or scribe, will have most tools needed. Students need to bring or purchase 2-3 slabs of rock that are similar hardness. Lab Fee: \$150.00 Includes Sterling Silver for Project 1. Estimate Material Cost: First 1 projects are included in lab fee, other materials plan on \$100 to \$300.

### Opals 1 – Cheryl Kasper

You will learn about various types of opals, how to cut and polish opal, how to read a stone before and during cutting, what makes opal precious, how opal forms, the equipment and supplies used to cut, treatments, care and tops for setting opals, opal valuation and why opal is such a unique and mysterious gemstone. Opals, books and supplies will be available for purchase. You are invited to bring your own opal as well. No prior experience is required. Lab fee: \$70

### Silver 2 -Southwest Style, Vickie Prillaman

This class will cover the Southwestern style of jewelry. We will discuss the styles and what are the differences between the Hopi, Navaho, and Zuni and other tribes. You will learn how to make several sizes of feathers, flowers, geckos, and other common southwest symbols. We will make our own appliques to add onto pieces of jewelry, whether it's rings, bracelets, pendants, or earrings. We will also use stamps to make designs in the metal. Lab Fee: \$80.00 Est. materials cost, depending on the price of silver: \$190.00-\$270.00

### Silver 1 – Pattie Appleby

Time to hone those solder skills! Our first project is a sterling silver CRAZY CHAIN! During the week we will learn how to use the rolling mill, hydraulic press, and other tools in the studio! We are also going to make a bezel by building a stone-set sterling silver wide band ring. Then, let's make a chunky flange ring! And finish the week off with a stone-set pendant with a toggle closure. And, of course, there will be fun, quick items to make during the week. Lab fee is \$60 and the class projects' fee will be approximately \$150-175

### Wire 1 – Spoon Jewelry – Jan Stephens

This course will be a fun filled week designed to give students a sample of both the art of wire jewelry making and jewelry made of repurposed vintage silverware. The first two days will be spent making wire bracelets, rings and earrings while learning basic wire wrapping techniques. This will be followed by three days of experimenting with bending vintage pieces of silverware into beautiful "SilverWear" bracelets, rings, earrings and pendants. Course Fee: \$175.00



## UPCOMING SHOWS

**April 6 - 8, 2018: Raleigh, NC** – 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Capital Area Gem & Mineral Show. Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. Kerr Scott Building, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC. The show is sponsored by the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club and includes 29 dealers. The Hospitality area sells grab bags with mineral specimens. Buy a rock at the Geode booth and be the first to see what is inside. The on-going Silent Auction has new items every hour. Dealers provide minerals, fossils, finished jewelry, gemstones, findings and beads for sale.. Hours: Fri 3-8; Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5. Admission: Free and Free Parking. Contact: Cyndy Hummel; 919-779-6220; [mchummel@mindspring.com](mailto:mchummel@mindspring.com); [www.tarheelclub.org](http://www.tarheelclub.org);

**July 30 - August 6: Spruce Pine NC** - 33rd Annual Grassy Creek Mineral and Gem Show. Sponsored by the Parkway Fire and Rescue to raise funds for new equipment. 60 worldwide vendors with gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry, lapidary equipment and much more. Address is 136 Majestic View, Spruce Pine NC 28777. This is at the new fire station on top of the hill above the old fire station and show field. Dates are July 30th to August 6th, 2017. Hours are from 10 to 6 with some vendors open earlier or later. Admission and parking are free. Contact Donna Collis at 828-765-5519 or [collisdonna@yahoo.com](mailto:collisdonna@yahoo.com). Website is <http://www.grassycreekgemshow.org>. Applications are available on the website.

## New Items at the Geode Booth

BY George Harris

After having a small television and one camera at last year's show, Greg Dillon, Geode Director, decided to up the ante this year with a large 4K HDTV and 4 cameras, one on each saw. The HDTV was a success, and John and Tom Todaro should get a lot of the credit for setting it up. Also, later in the show, a customer discovered that their Geode actually fluoresces. Several of us went with her to a nearby dealer to see how her geode fluoresced. We then brought several other geodes to see how they fluoresced. We were amazed that some of the plainer looking geodes, especially

those with calcium and calcite formations fluoresced rather well. Greg is now talking about wanting to get some lamps to help show customers if their geode fluoresces.

Greg would like to thank all the volunteers who worked & helped out in the Geode booth this year! We had a stellar year and we got rave reviews from our customers about the TV and being able to watch and in some cases record their Geodes being cut open live! Even vendors commented on the great idea and some members of the Greensboro club came over to see our operation and ask questions.

## Vugsites

The following are some links to Web-Sites that may interest some of our members:

<http://www.tarheelclub.org> / <https://www.facebook.com/tarheelgemandmineralclub/> These are the official sites for the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club. I would strongly urge all members to check them out on a regular basis.

<http://www.amfed.org> / <http://www.amfed.org/sfms> These are the official sites for the organizing body that the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club is founded under. I would strongly urge all members to check them out on a regular basis.

[http://www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar\\_newsletter.html](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar_newsletter.html) The SFMS Lodestar Newsletter

<http://www.carolinageologicalsociety.org/CGS/Home.html> This site provides numerous downloadable field-trip guide books, maps, and charts of the Carolinas. It will prove to keep any avid rock hound busy for years. Great Site!

[http://www.ncminerals.com/ncmineralswebsite\\_files/page0011.htm](http://www.ncminerals.com/ncmineralswebsite_files/page0011.htm) And while we are on the subject, try this link. Its titled: Links of Interest to Rock hounds in NC. It will take you to a list of links for North Carolina gems and minerals.

<http://www.rocksforkids.com/> Just like the name says, a nice place to steer the younger members.

Information & photographs of over 6300 specimens from the Glenn & Martha Vargas Gem & Mineral Collection.

<http://www.rockhoundlounge.com> Scott Laborde, a club member maintains his own web site that might be of interest to people collecting in and around Wake County.

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/29726500/ns/technology\\_and\\_science-science](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/29726500/ns/technology_and_science-science) This site highlights a half dozen of the most recent significant fossil finds.

<http://appmodo.com/13971/mole-quest-for-the-terracore-gem-app-review-for-the-iphone-and-ipod-touch/> If you have an iphone or an ipod touch, this rock-hounding may be the game for you.

[http://diamonddanpublications.net/index\\_files/page0009.html](http://diamonddanpublications.net/index_files/page0009.html) Diamond Dan's Mini Miner's Monthly

I would like to encourage all members of the THG&MC that maintain their own presence on the internet to send me a link to their site to be published in future Vugsites so that other club members may learn and enjoy the craft, the art, the interests that many of us have in common.

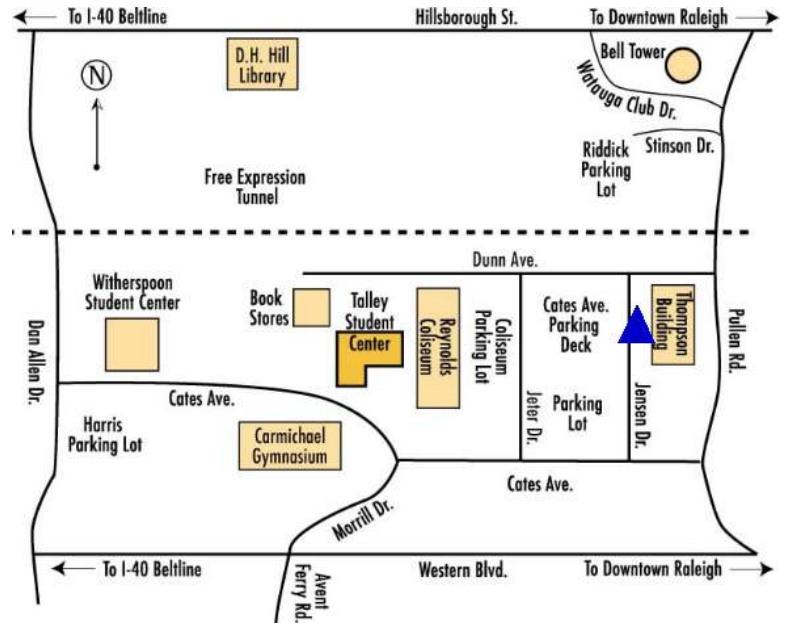
Park in the Cates Ave. Parking Deck off Jensen Dr. Enter Thompson Building directly across from the parking lot.

**Our Next Meeting is**  
**April 18, 2017 @ 7:30PM**  
**Thompson Building / NCSU Campus.**

***About Our Organization...***

The Tar Heel Gem and mineralogy, paleontology, Mineral Club, Inc. was earth sciences, and formed in 1974 as a lapidary techniques, nonprofit educational organization for people among the general public. who enjoy the lapidary The club pursues these arts, earth sciences, and goals through related subjects. The club pursues these goals through publications, meetings, objectives of the club are lectures, field trips, to investigate, preserve, exhibits, demonstrations, and other activities. and share knowledge of rocks, minerals, and precious stones, and to promote interest in

**Come and be a part of the Fun!**



**TAR HEEL GEM & MINERAL CLUB**  
 10609 Chelsea Drive  
 Raleigh, NC 27603

